

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

EUR-25 SS-20 SP-03 L-03 SCI-06 NASA-04 OMB-01 PRS-01

PA-04 DRC-01 /105 W

----- 122648

R 191340Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6643

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SE

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES POLITICAL REPORT

FOLLOWING SENT NAIROBI ACTION FROM DET 4 AFSCF MAHE ISLAND
SEYCHELLES DATED 19 APR 74 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE

R 190450Z APR 74

FM DET 4 AFSCF MAHE ISLAND SEYCHELLES

TO RUWJEB/AFSCF LOS ANGELES AFS CA/CC

RUEFHQA/OSAF WASH DC/IA

RUEFHQA/CSAF WASH DC/RDSA

RUESNI/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI KENYA

RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON UK

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES POLITICAL REPORT. (U)

1. (C) SINCE MY RETURN FROM THE STATES I HAVE BEEN MONITORING
THE SEY POL SITUATION. I HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPUTY
GOVERNOR (DG), THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (AG), THE COMMISSIONER OF
POLICE (COP) AND SEVERAL BUSINESS MANAGERS. THE SDP IS FAVORED
TO WIN. THEY CURRENTLY HOLD 10 OF THE 15 SEATS. IN MY ESTIMATION
THE RATIO WILL STAY VERY NEAR THE CURRENT LEVEL. IT COULD GO ONE
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SEAT MORE TO SDP. THERE ARE THREE DISTRICTS THAT ARE VERY

CLOSELY CONTESTED WITH NO MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT VOTE SPREAD.

2. (C) POLITICAL ACTIVITY IS INCREASING AS THE ELECTION NEARS. SDP RALLY'S HAVE BY FAR THE GREATEST ATTENDANCE. THUS FAR THE SITUATION IS PEACEFUL. THE POLICE DEPT IS TAKING EVERY PRECAUTION TO KEEP VIOLENCE FROM ERUPTING. THE COP IS HOWEVER ANTICIPATING SOME FORM OF VIOLENCE AFTER THE ELECTION.

3. (C) IN A RADIO BROADCAST OF A TAPED POLITICAL SPEECH BY THE CHIEF MINISTER (CM) THE NIGHT OF 17 APRIL, THE CM STATED THAT SOON AFTER THE ELECTION HE WOULD INVITE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR FROM NAIROBI TO COME TO THE SEYCHELLES TO DISCUSS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEGOTIATING A NEW AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE U.S. TRACKING STATION AT LA MISERE. THE AG INFORMED ME THAT THE CM IS GOING TO ASK FOR TWO MILLION RUPEES PER YEAR AS PAYMENT FOR THE TRACKING STATION. ALSO THERE IS TALK ABOUT IMPOSING TAXES AND CUSTOMS DUTY ON ALL ITEMS COMING IN FOR USE BY THE TRACKING STATION.

4. (C) THE DG AND THE AG BOTH HAVE STATED THAT THE CM HAS NOT FIXED A DATE FOR ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE. THE SPUP LEADER, RENE, WOULD HAVE ONE YEAR OF SELF RULE BEFORE ASSUMING INDEPENDENCE. THE DG AND AG SAY THE CM WOULD HAVE TEN YEARS OF SELF RULE IF THE UKG WOULD PERMIT IT BEFORE ASSUMING INDEPENDENCE. THE DG STATES THAT THE UKG WILL NOT SUPPORT SUCH A MOVE AND THUS THE CM WILL BE PUSHED INTO AN EARLY INDEPENDENCE. THE DG STATES THAT THE UKG WANTS TO RID THEMSELVES OF THE SEY ASAP. HE FURTHER STATES THAT THE OAU IS POURING CONSIDERABLE SUMS OF MONEY INTO THE SPUP.

5. (C) THE TRACKING STATION WILL ASSUME AN INCREASED SECURITY POSTURE DURING ELECTION WEEK AND WILL REMAIN IN SUCH A POSTURE UNTIL WE SEE WHAT DEVELOPS FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS. MAJOR MICHAUD. GDS-80. UNQUOTE MARSHALL

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